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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

Comment On: EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001

Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

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Anonymous public comment

Submitter Information

General Comment

The current proposed bay tmdls will likely have very serious negative effects on the farming community. We need to look closely at the sale of over the counter fertilizer used by homeowners. I as a small farmer cannot afford to apply at rates above what my soil samples recommend. A homeowner who pays a small amount for fertilizer to apply to their quarter acre lot can very reasonably afford to apply ten times the rate of fertilizer necessary and no doubt never obtain soil samples! I will keep this short by ending with a local neighbors story he applied 300 lbs of 18-18-18 to his yard before selling his home because he wanted his yard to be green. I am not making this up and you are welcome to call me to confirm this. It is high time you look at the other issues that are causing problems in the bay. I do not disagree that we need to police this to clean it up. Lets start a program that requires a soil sample for yard fertilization and when you have purchased the max allowed in your sample you cannot buy any more for the year. This would not only help the bay in rural areas but also provide relief to treatment plants who now spend great amounts of money and time removing nitrates from the storm sewer run off. Thank you